

Message Text

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ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 CAB-09 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 FAA-00 FEA-02 DOTE-00 OC-06

CCO-00 PA-04 USIA-15 PRS-01 SPC-03 TRSE-00 SS-20

NSC-10 EUR-25 OMB-01 DRC-01 /130 W

----- 119739

R 291031Z JAN 74

FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9238

INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

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CAPE TOWN ALSO FOR EMBASSY

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRN, SF

SUBJECT: CIVAIR: INTERNATIONAL AIRLINES AND FUEL

REF: PRETORIA 205

1. PRETORIA NEWS JAN 28, PURPORTEDLY QUOTING FROM DEPT. TRANSPORT LETTER, REPORTED SOUTH AFRICAN GOVT. (SAG) HAD ASKED AIRLINES OPERATING IN AND OUT OF SOUTH AFRICA TO REDUCE THEIR SERVICES DURING PERIODS OF LIGHT TRAFFIC BETWEEN 20 AND 30 PERCENT AS FUEL CONSERVATION MEASURE AND TO ADVISE HOW THEY WOULD BE ABLE TO COOPERATE.

2. PAPER ADDED FRENCH UTA HAS CANCELLED MONDAY FLIGHT TO PARIS; BRITISH AIR WAYS WOULD FROM FEB 5 CANCEL MONDAY ROUND TRIP FLIGHT TO LONDON AND FLIGHT LEAVING LONDON WEDNESDAY AND RETURNING FROM SA THURSDAY; ALITALIA MIGHT REPLACE TWO DC-8 FLIGHTS WITH ONE DC-10;
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KLM AND SABENA PLANNING CUTS; NO RPT NO SWISSAIR NOTS ANTICIPATED;

IND LUFTHANSA SAID HAD NOT RPT NOT YET RECEIVED APPEAL FROM GOVT.

3. PAN AM REP (VON AHLEFELD) TOLD EMBOFF MORNING JAN 29 HE HAD NOT RPT NOT BEEN ASKED TO REDUCE SERVICES. HE HAD, HOWEVER, BEEN ASKED TO ADVISE OF FUEL REQUIREMENTS THROUGH THEIR FUELER (BP) AND NUMBER OF FLIGHTS PER MONTH ANTICIPATED. PAN AM CURRENTLY OPERATING TWO PASSENGER AND ONE CAROO RUNS WEEKLY AND WILL REQUIRE APPROXIMATELY 11,000 GALS. EACH FLIGHT. IN CLARIFICATION KINSHASA REFUELING MENTIONED PARA 2 REFTEL, VON AHLEFELD SAID PAN AM HAD TAKEN ON STORED FUEL AT CHEAPER PRICE IN KINSHASA FOR TWO TO THREE MONTHS IN 1973 BUT FROM DECEMBER ON HAD BEEN TAKING ON NORMAL FUEL AT JOHANNESBURG (JAN SMUTS).

4. VON AHLEFELD SPECULAZED THAT PRESS REPORT RELATED TO FAC THAT AIRLINE OPERATING IN POOL ARRANGEMENTS ABLE TO ESTIMATE LOADS AND RAT ALIZE SERVICES BETWEEN THEM, SUCTOAS BOAC AND SAA ON LONDON SERVICE.

5. SUBSEQUENT TO REFTEL, PETROLEUM CONTROLLER, COMMERCE SECRETARY STEYN, STATED TO EMBOFF IN COURSE TELECON FROM CAPE TOWN THAT INTERNATIONAL AIR CARRIERS WOULD BE FUELED AT SA AIRPORTS ON NON-DISCRIMINATORY BASIS. AT THAT TIME HE ALSO INDICATED ADEQUATE AVIATION FUELS AVAILABLE AND INTERNATIONAL CARRIERS NOT RPT NOT BEING ASKED TO REDUCE FLIGHTS ALTHOUGH SAA WAS CUTTING BACK TO EASE FUEL DEMAND (PRETORIA 215).

6. HAVE NOT RPT NOT RAISED SUBJECT PRESS REPORTS WITH SAG OFFICIALS SINCE PAN AM HAS NOT (RPT NOT) BEEN ASKED CONSIDER REDUCTION AND MAY NOT BE. WILL, HOWEVER, APPRECIATE INFORMATION ON SITUATION REGARDING SAA IN NEW YORK SUBSEQUENT JANUARY FUELING ASSURANCE REPORTED STATE 2946, IN EVENT SUBJECT DOES ARISE.
HURD

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